

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1-2. (canceled).

3. (withdrawn) A method for producing docosahexaenoic acid-containing fat and oil, which comprises culturing the *Thraustochytrium* strain having an ability of producing docosahexaenoic acid in a medium, and collecting the docosahexaenoic acid-containing fat and oil from the culture product.

4. (withdrawn) The method for producing docosahexaenoic acid-containing fat and oil according to claim 3, wherein the *Thraustochytrium* strain having an ability of producing docosahexaenoic acid is the LFF1 strain of *Thraustochytrium* (accession number: FERM BP-08568 (transferred from FERM P-19159)), a strain of the same genus as the LFF1 strain, or a strain having fungological properties substantially identical to those of the LFF1 strain.

5. (withdrawn) The method for producing docosahexaenoic acid-containing fat and oil according to claim 3, wherein pH at culturing is 8.0 to 9.0.

6. (withdrawn) The method for producing docosahexaenoic acid-containing fat and oil according to claim 3, wherein the amount of strain to be inoculated at culturing is 80 g or more per liter of culture medium.

7. (withdrawn) The method for producing docosahexaenoic acid-containing fat and oil according to claim 6, wherein the amount of strain to be inoculated at culturing is 100 g or more per liter of culture medium.

8. (withdrawn) The method for producing docosahexaenoic acid-containing fat and oil according to claim 3, wherein the strain is cultured in a medium having a carbon source concentration of 4% to 7%, and then is subsequently cultured in a medium having a carbon source concentration of 13% to 20%.

9. (withdrawn) Docosahexaenoic acid-containing fat and oil which contains 10% by weight or less of docosapentaenoic acid and 30% by weight or more of docosahexaenoic acid, based on the total amount of fatty acid in the fat and oil

10. (withdrawn) The docosahexaenoic acid-containing fat and oil according to claim 9 which contains 50% by weight or more of docosahexaenoic acid, based on the total amount of fatty acid in the fat and oil.

11. (withdrawn) The docosahexaenoic acid-containing fat and oil according to claim 9 which is obtained by culturing the *Thraustochytrium* strain having an ability of producing docosahexaenoic acid in a medium and collecting docosahexaenoic acid-containing fat and oil from the culture product.

12. (withdrawn) The docosahexaenoic acid-containing fat and oil according to claim 9 which is obtained by culturing the LFF1 strain of *Thraustochytrium* (accession number: FERM BP-08568 (transferred from FERM P-19159)), a strain of the same genus as the LFF1 strain, or a strain having fungological properties substantially identical to those of the LFF1 strain in a medium and collecting docosahexaenoic acid-containing fat and oil from the culture product.

13. (withdrawn) The docosahexaenoic acid-containing fat and oil according to claim 9 which is obtained by purifying fat and oil which is collected from the cultured product of a strain.

14. (withdrawn) The docosahexaenoic acid-containing fat and oil according to claim 9 wherein the fat and oil is contained in: a culture solution during the production of fat and oil by culturing of strain or a sterilized culture solution thereof; a culture solution after the completion of culture or a sterilized culture solution thereof; cultured strains collected from any of the above culture solutions or a dehydrated product thereof; or a residue after the fat and oil is collected from any of the above culture solutions or strains.

15. (withdrawn) A method for producing docosahexaenoic acid, which comprises isolating docosahexaenoic acid from the docosahexaenoic acid-containing fat and oil which is obtained by the production method according to claim 3 or the docosahexaenoic acid-containing fat and oil according to claim 9.

16. (withdrawn) The method for producing docosahexaenoic acid according to claim 15 wherein the docosahexaenoic acid is isolated, after the docosahexaenoic acid-containing fat and oil is treated with lipase.

17. (withdrawn) A method for producing behenic acid, which comprises performing hydrogenation on the docosahexaenoic acid-containing fat and oil which is obtained by the production method according to claim 3, the docosahexaenoic acid-containing fat and oil according to claim 9, or the docosahexaenoic acid which is obtained by the method according to claim 15.

18. (withdrawn) A method for producing photographic photosensitive materials, wherein silver behenate containing the behenic acid of claim 17 is used.

19. (new) A biologically pure culture of *Thraustochytrium* strain, deposited as IPOD Accession No. FERM BP-08568, which has an ability of producing docosahexaenoic acid.

20. (new) A biologically pure culture of a strain having all of the identifying characteristics of the strain FERM BP-08568.